

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 3 with:

A particular example of the efforts made on the art is disclosed by the United States ~~application~~ Patent No. 4,008,351 entitled "Sheet or film material having antibacterial and anti-fungal activity", issued on February 15, 1977 to ~~Mayumi Inoue~~ et al, which discloses a sheet or film material having antibacterial and anti-fungal activity utilized to cover walls, ceiling and floors. Said material is obtained by mixing a benzimidazole and phthalimide. Such sheet or film material disclosed by said application is a thermoplastic material based product, and even that can provide a protection against microbial growth, it has the disadvantages of being an additional component which is submitted to wearing due to use and can be coated or replaced at the short run with the additional expenses entailed. This application does not suggest that microbicide agents can be an integral part of cement and aggregates based composition. Equally, making a long lasting product, such as floor or coating having a lasting anti-microbial effect, is not suggested.

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 4, line 23 with:

United States ~~application~~ Patent No. 6,162,845 entitled "Reinforced Concrete having Improved Anti-microbial Fibers", issued on December 19, 2000, to W. Wayne Freed, discloses a material product similar to concrete reinforced with fibers having an effective amount of a microbicide agent incorporated therein, to prolong concrete duration, where the microbicide agent is provided incorporated in or coating a plurality of fibers, which, in turn, are spread within a concrete matrix. Fibers inclusion with a microbicide agent is aimed to reinforce concrete and reduce concrete sensitivity to a biological attack. However, this document is referred to the fiber reinforced concrete specific application, whose fiber includes a microbicide agent (Microban ® B) that protects concrete itself from deterioration due to microorganisms growth, this concrete is used for the construction of entire buildings and specially those in which an additional protection due to the use of this kind of agents is required. However, reference is not made to concrete-based floors and wall coverings in different forms and designs, that do not include a fiber as a reinforcement element and as a carrier for incorporating a microbicide agent, for the anti-microbial protection when being utilized as a floor and coating for walls and ceilings without the need of the entire building

construction with such products. Also, there is no reference made of a finished product for specific use, having proved long lasting anti-microbial action using microbicide agents without including a fiber as a carrier.

Please replace the paragraph beginning on page 6, line 6 with:

United States ~~application~~ Patent No. 6,350,350 entitled "Construction Material", issued on February 26, 2002 to Eisaku Tozaka, discloses a construction material containing microcapsules of a specific bactericide agent, mixed with a basic construction material such as cement, aggregates and water mixture. Said basic material with the bactericide agent microcapsules is used for floors, walls and ceilings construction. The liquid bactericide agent contained in the microcapsules is gradually perspired or infiltrated into the construction material each time microcapsules break due to a change over time. The construction material with an antibacterial action of the present invention presents the disadvantage of requiring further devices and processes for first forming the microcapsules containing the specific microbicide agent, and after having obtained this microcapsules, are incorporated with the mixture to finally form the construction material. Another disadvantage of this construction material is the cost factor entailed when being used to build walls and construction in general, to provide the protection mentioned above. However, there is no suggestion on said application, that the microbicide agent be directly integrated as another component of the construction material, and including an immediate and long lasting anti-microbial action, this is, without using a carrier such as microcapsules.